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Dutch writer says Carter 'threatened'

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WASHINGTON — Willem Oltmans, the controversial Dutch journalist who claims to know the secrets of the John F. Kennedy assassination, said Tuesday he has knowledge of a recent "incident" involving the safety of President Carter.

Oltmans said he has been warned not to disclose information on the threat to the President, which he said took place four weeks ago and has not been made public.

"It's began already," he said, blaming a faction within a U.S. intelligence agency, "from the same direction."

Oltman's statement in regard to a possible threat to the President was made after a press conference he said he called to enlist support of U.S. journalists to appeal to President Carter to negotiate with a new assassination witness. Several reporters appeared openly skeptical.

This witness, according to Oltmans, has known every president since Franklin D. Roosevelt. He will give his information only to Carter or upon the President's promise the witness will receive "reasonable" protection, Oltmans said.

OLTMANS WAS an acquaintance of George DeMohrenschildt, a mysterious figure in the Kennedy case. DeMohrenschildt was a Russian-born college professor in Dallas who befriended Lee Harvey Oswald. He commited himself to the psychiatric unit of Parkland Hospital in late 1976.

In early 1977, according to Oltmans' committee testimony, DeMohrenschildt admitted to Oltmans during a meeting at the Cipango Club in Dallas that Oswald acted at his direction. Oltmans, who works with a European television network, took DeMohrenschildt to Amsterdam and Brussels. DeMohrenschildt disappeared, but later through an intermediary in Houston, informed Oltmans he was in Florida.

Oltmans said he was "fed up" with DeMohrenschildt and called an attorney for the House Select Committee on assassinations. On March 29, the next day, DeMohrenschildt told the committee he would testify, Oltmans said.

"Inadvertently he died on the afternoon of the 29th," Oltmans said.

DeMohreneschildt was found dead of an apparent suicide.

BECAUSE OF that death, it would be "silly" to disclose the identity of the new witness to the House committee, Oltmans said.

"We had our experience there loud and clear," he said.

During the press conference which occasionally turned to shouts between Oltmans and reporters, Oltmans said Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis and former President Gerald Ford have been briefed on who was behind the Kennedy assassination.

He also claimed he has been followed by FBI agents while in the United States.

"I have given you certain information," he said. "Make me out a liar if it doesn't fit . . . I'd rather take the risk that you all think I'm telling you a bunch of lies than go beyond what I had planned to say."

Oltmans said he is in touch with a Justice Department lawyer who is in contact with the White House.

Later Tuesday, Oltmans told The News he was mistaken when he said in a television interview last April DeMohrenschildt was linked "up" to Dallas oilman H. L. Hunt and "down" to Lee Harvey Oswald.

He said he had been led by DeMohrenschildt to believe thre was a connection with Hunt, but later investigation proved Hunt was in no way involved.